ARTICLE APPEARE ON PAGE

NEW YORK TIMES 11 MARCH 1982

EXILE GROUP SEEKS TO OUST SANDIN

'Everglades Commandos' Offer to Fight in Any U.S.-Backed Unit Sent to Nicaragua

By Richard J. Meislin Special to The New York Time

MIAMI, March 10 - A group of Latin American exiles offered today to provide several hundred volunteers for any efforts by the Reagan Administration to disrupt the Nicaraguan Government.

"We've been urging that this be done since our inception two and a half years ago," said Ellis Rubin, a lawyer who represents the Inter-American Expeditionary Task Force.

The group, also known as the Everglades Commandos, has been openly training exiles southwest of here for possible insurgent operations in Cuba and Nicaragua.

On hearing reports that President Reagan had authorized covert operations against Nicaragua's Sandinist Government, it sent telegrams to the White House and the Central Intelligence Agency offering to help.

Mr. Rubin said the telegrams offered trained commandos for whatever purpose may be assigned to them."

He said the C.I.A. and the White House were not involved in the taskforce's activities so far, although not for any lack of effort by the group. "We've made requests to the White House to be allowed to operate, but we have not re ceived any response," he said.

"We know that there have been several Federal agencies that have inspected our facilities from time to time in the past two years," he said.

But he added that the training of the Everglades Commandos had been financed entirely by "private contributions - there is no Government spon-30rship of this group."

A Wariness Toward the Press

Asked whether the C.I.A. was among the agencies that had visited the group's installations, Mr. Rubin said, "I don't know - they don't identify themselves as such."

Until recently, the task force was quite open with the press, gaining copious publicity by giving Sunday tours of Camp Cuba-Nicaragua, a training ground in southwestern Dade County at the edge of the Everglades. The group says it has several other training camps in Florida, but it has not permitted outsiders to visit them.

But the group became more restrictive last weekend, announcing that the Everglades Commandos would begin a seven-day-a-week training schedule and would no longer open the Dade County camp to reporters.

The change occurred after a television camera crew photographed the leader of the group, Jorge Gonzales, firing a semiautomatic weapon at or near the feet of a trainee.

The film, which was shown last month, led to Mr. Gonzales's arrest under a law that prohibits a convicted felon from possessing a firearm. Mr. Gonzales, a Cuban exile, served four "the services of these hundreds of 1968 of taking part in a bazooka attack years in prison after being convicted in against a Polish freighter off the Miami